



1945

# Truce Ending War to Last Few Days

Reconversion Now Is Main Problem  
See Home Front — Edit. Page

## LANCASTER NEW ERA

WEATHER  
Partly cloudy and cooler to night; Thursday fair with moderate temperature.

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# End of War Lifts Rationing of Gas, Oil and Blue-Point Foods; Army-Navy to Release 7 Millions

## YANKS READY TO MOVE INTO JAP HOMELAND

Hard Future Laid Down For Defeated Nips By Peace Terms

WASHINGTON, Aug. 15.—(AP)—The world entered a new era of peace today. Along the enormous battlefronts of the Pacific and Asia the mightiest forces of destruction ever assembled rolled to a victorious halt around the prostrate, vanquished empire of Japan.

Throughout the Allied world, wrecked by war or threat of war since Germany struck Poland on Sept. 1, 1939, it was a time for rejoicing and celebration. But at noon the problems of peace were beginning to pile up.

"We are faced with the greatest task we ever have been faced with," said President Truman. "The emergency is as great as it was on December 7, 1941."

## Truce For Few Days

Mr. Truman announced Japan's capitulation at 7 o'clock, Eastern War Time, last night. The act marked the beginning of a truce that will last a few days until General of the Army Douglas MacArthur, as Supreme Allied Commander, can accept formal Japanese surrender on the basis of the Potsdam declaration.

While promising the Japanese people free and decent lives, this declaration lays down a hard future for them. It is much like that imposed on Germany, except that the Japanese will have their own national government, including an Emperor, under rigid Allied control.

## All Means Ever to Make War Again Are to Be Stripped From Them

At Advance Pacific bases military government officers stood ready to move in with occupation forces and carry out these terms.

More than four hours after Mr. Truman announced the surrender, the war was still on in the Pacific. A communiqué from Guam early today reported that units of the U. S. Third Fleet in the vicinity of Honshu were being approached by Japanese aircraft.

## Those That Do So Are Being Shot Down

Radio Tokyo, however, under another hour, until 1 P. M. Japanese time, to tell its troops of the surrender.

"We have come to a point where (See PEACE—Page 15)



Penn. Square under an umbrella of torn newspaper and confetti as the victory celebration began here last night. This was the scene less than a half hour after the 7 p. m. peace announcement.

## MacArthur Orders Enemy 2 DAYS NOT U. S. 2-Day Holiday Follows Envoys to Manila Friday

GUAM, Aug. 15.—(AP)—Japan's surrender envoy, using the code word "Bataan" to communicate with American forces, will arrive at Ie Shima, General MacArthur announced today.

The envoy will fly on Friday in a white plane marked with green crosses. Mission was to learn the Allied surrender terms, added MacArthur, newly appointed Allied Supreme Commander in Japan.

Accompanied by competent Army, Navy and Air Force officers and fortified with credentials enabling him to represent Emperor Hirohito, the envoy will land on tiny Ie Shima, off Okinawa, where Enrie Pyle met death. The field will be marked with green crosses, similar to those on the white plane.

From the island won by the late Lt. Gen. Simon Bolivar Buckner's Tenth Army, the envoy will proceed to Manila in an American plane where he will confer with General MacArthur.

Accepting command of the Allied occupation forces of Japan, General MacArthur said: "I thank a merciful God that this mighty struggle is about to end. His next sentence was 'I shall at once take steps to stop hostilities and further bloodshed, in closing out his formal series of communications, General MacArthur disclosed that American planes had damaged 20 Japanese ships in sweeps over Empire home waters yesterday and had shot down 100 Japanese aircraft."

## Jap Surrender Route

Broken arrows indicate route Jap surrender party will follow for meeting with Gen. MacArthur in Manila.

## White House Says Statement an Error

WASHINGTON, Aug. 15.—(AP)—White House today retracted a statement that today and tomorrow are legal holidays and explained that President Truman merely intended to excuse government employees for this period.

Press Secretary Charles G. Ross said that last night's statement which held the import of creating two legal holidays for purposes of overtime pay was issued in error. Ross said in a statement:

"Do Not Know Date of V-J Day  
"Today is not V-J day nor is tomorrow," as the President stated yesterday. The proclamation of V-J Day must wait upon the formal signing of the surrender terms by Japan; therefore the executive order does not apply in any way to August 15 and 16, August 15 and 16 are not intended to be legal holidays. The President merely excused government employees from work on those two days.

The executive order will be applicable on V-J day when it is proclaimed. Before that date the secretary of labor will issue a proclamation.

(See U. S. HOLIDAY—Page 15)

IT PAYS TO BELONG TO THE AAA  
Ask Any Of The 1,038 Lancaster Automobile Club Members. They Know—Adv.

## Releases Will Cover Period 12-18 Months

WASHINGTON, Aug. 15.—(AP)—Approximately 7,000,000 men now in the armed forces of the United States will be returned to civilian life within the next twelve months, Reconversion Director John W. Snyder said today.

Snyder predicted that within the next several months the demobilization rate will be stepped up to 500,000 men a month. The rate at the present time is 170,000 men a month.

The Navy's demobilization plan is designed to release between 1,500,000 and 2,000,000 men within the next 12 to 18 months. President Truman last night calculated that the Army could release from 3,000,000 to 3,500,000 men in the next 12 to 18 months.

The president made it clear last night that pending determination of when the draft for enlisted only men under 26 will be called up for Selective Service.

Navy Discharge Credits  
The formula to be made effective immediately by the Navy gives discharge credit for length of service and dependency and establishes a minimum number of points required for release.

This formula allows a half point for each year of age, a half point for each full month of active duty since September 1, 1939, and points if the individual involved has a dependent. No credit is allowed for additional dependents.

Critical scores required to rate eligibles are 44 for enlisted men, 50 for enlisted wave personnel, 55 for enlisted wave personnel, 55 for enlisted wave personnel, 55 for enlisted wave personnel.

The Navy said the Coast Guard Marine Corps discharge plan will be announced separately.

Departments of critical scores, anyone who has received one of the higher combat decorations or the Distinguished Flying Cross, and comparable medals of the Army, such awards were made for combat achievement.

The Navy estimated approximately 227,000 are immediately eligible for release under the plan, including 281,000 enlisted men, 3,200 enlisted women, 40,000 male officers, 500 WAVE officers, and upwards of 20,000 award holders.

## ALL MANPOWER CONTROLS OFF

Free Labor Market First Time in 3 Years

All manpower controls over both the employer and the employee were lifted here today and throughout the nation by the War Relocation Authority, restoring a free labor market for the first time in three years.

A worker can step up and apply for a job any job. He doesn't need to pay any attention to the U. S. Employment Service, he doesn't need a certificate of availability. He won't be channelled to essential industries.

No Plant Priority  
And employers are free of labor ceilings. They may hire as many workers as they wish and they may hire them regardless of their type of work. There is no more plant priority to get first call on workers.

Formal action in lifting the controls was taken here by Wilber P. Gallatin, area WMC director, in line with a national WMC announcement from Washington following the surrender of Japan.

At the same time, Gallatin called on local industry and community leaders to join with WMC in a "day of prayer and thanksgiving" rather than a day of carnival.

## 1,800 at Work on Armstrong Cutbacks

Immediate cancellation of most of the Armstrong Cork Company's Army and Navy munitions contracts—with the exception of aircraft work—was announced by company officials today.

Officials said production will not be resumed on these contracts on which approximately 1,800 persons are employed. The announcement added that Armstrong employees "will be given further instructions and information in tomorrow's newspapers and on Station WGAL at 5:20, 7:30 and 10 p. m. tomorrow."

## 23-BILLION CUT IN ARMY NEEDS

Snyder Tells Nation of Temporary Idleness

WASHINGTON, Aug. 15.—(AP)—A \$23,500,000,000-a-year cut in procurement of munitions and supplies was announced today by the War Department.

The Department said that as soon as President Truman announced the Japanese surrender last night, telegrams went out to prime contractors notifying them of cutbacks reducing Army procurement from \$2,400,000,000 a month to \$435,000,000 a month.

Of the procurement which is continuing, the Department announced, \$268,000,000 monthly represents food, clothing, shelter, and other necessities.

Production of most types of weapons and equipment has been halted, including drugs, pharmaceuticals, hospital equipment and supplies, 50c food, 20c clothing and equipment, including shoes and needles.

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## Unemployment to Be Sharp, But Temporary, Snyder Says

WASHINGTON, Aug. 15.—(AP)—Reconversion Director John W. Snyder said today that sudden ending of most of the nation's war contracts will cause "an immediate and large dislocation of our economy," with sharp but temporary unemployment.

"But we are not going back to long periods of mass unemployment," Snyder declared in a 31-page statement laying down general policy for the vast change-over from war to peace production.

He emphasized six major highlights of the problem:

All military contracts are being terminated immediately, except those for experimental purposes and maintaining the armed forces. The Army is acting immediately to cut its procurement of weapons entirely.

At least 7 million men will be released from the armed services within the next 12 months.

(See RECONVERSION—Page 15)

## Jap Planes Stage Attacks Hours After Capitulation

Imperial Air Force but added that some Japanese planes were "reported to have made an attack on the Allied bases and fleet in the south."

"While the Imperial headquarters are trying their best to prevent the recurrence of such incidents, the Allied fleets and convoys are again requested not to approach Japanese home waters until cease-fire arrangements are made," Domei said.

The suicide plane raid came 12 hours after President Truman's announcement of Japan's surrender was made known. It caused a one-hour blackout alert over Okinawa and nearby islands.

The alert, following by hours Gen. MacArthur's communique declaring "offensive action in all sectors has been halted," stunned Okinawa troops. They thought

COVER 33 OF 52

## JAPAN SURRENDERS

"The world entered a new era of peace today."

So began the account of the ending of World War II on the front page of the Aug. 15, 1945, Lancaster New Era. The night before, President Harry Truman had declared that Japan had surrendered, just a week after the United States deployed two nuclear weapons on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Less than four years prior, Japanese forces bombed Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941.

Response to the end of war was swift. On the same day as Japan's surrender, the U.S. declared that 7 million troops would return home within the next year and a half. Furthermore, \$23 billion in military services was cut, with everything from ammunition and aircraft to hospital services and

telephone equipment cut immediately. Because of the relative speed of the end of the war, National Reconversion Director John W. Snyder warned of temporary unemployment as hundreds of thousands of soldiers returned home. However, it wasn't just returning soldiers — those contributing to the war effort at home also would see their roles changed. Armstrong Cork Co., on West Liberty Street, transformed into a munitions maker during the war. As the war ended, Armstrong's military contract was terminated, and 1,800 people were let go. At the same time, the U.S. returned to a free labor market for the first time in three years.

Though the surrender was called in August, the actual documents wouldn't be signed until Sept. 2. Gathered on the USS Missouri, representatives from

Japan, the U.S., China and other Allied countries officially signed the Japanese Instrument of Surrender. For a time, the date was celebrated as "V-E Day" earlier in 1945 after the surrender of Germany from the war.

By the end of 1945, all but one of the Japanese internment camps on the West Coast were closed. In December 1945, the initial order was struck down by the Supreme Court. Of the initial 120,000 Japanese Americans forced into camps, thousands remained at the Tule Lake center until March 1946, when they scattered to start new lives.

While the end of World War II was celebrated as a finale to a historic conflict, the fallout would ripple throughout the coming decades and shape much of life as we know it today.